UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.3/48/5
28 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 112

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

Letter dated 27 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the paragraphs referring to drug abuse and illicit trafficking (see annex) from the Communiqué of the Meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, which took place in Cyprus from 21 to 25 October 1993.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 112.

(Signed) A. SHAMBOS
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations

Annex

EXTRACT ON DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING FROM THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT HELD IN CYPRUS FROM 21 TO 25 OCTOBER 1993

40. The Committee [of the Whole] noted with concern the ever-growing problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, which had now spread to countries which had neither the experience nor the infrastructure and other resources to deal with it.

41. The Committee recommended that the Heads of Government urge all Commonwealth Governments that were not party to the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances to adhere to the Convention and enact the necessary domestic legislation as soon as possible; to support the United Nations drug control programmes and enhance international cooperation against drug trafficking; to adopt the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force as appropriate; to take advantage of the advisory and assistance facilities available in the Dublin Group of donor countries; and to adopt appropriate domestic legislation to trace, freeze and confiscate the proceeds of drug trafficking and money laundering.

42. The Committee asked the Secretariat, in close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and other relevant bodies, including regional organizations, to continue to organize appropriate training and other activities to counter aspects of both supply of and demand for illicit drugs. It urged member countries to develop common bilateral or multilateral approaches to deal with illicit trafficking and to implement the Commonwealth Scheme for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

43. The Committee noted that criminality, violence and disruption of the social, economic and political fabric were closely associated with drug abuse and trafficking. It recommended that Commonwealth law ministers be invited to give priority attention to legislative programmes which would ensure that their countries were in a position to meet the threat posed domestically and to render legal assistance to other countries in respect of any drug trafficking offenses.

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fact that the Muslim fundamentalists tore down the monument dedicated to the great writer who won the Nobel Prize for his work depicting the suffering of the non-Muslim population in Bosnia during the rule of the Ottoman Empire.

As for the accusations concerning the human rights situation and the alleged discrimination against the Albanians, Hungarians and Muslims in Kosovo and Metohija, Vojvodina and the so-called "Sandzak", the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) mission of long duration has had a chance to examine the situation in the areas. According to our information, it toned down and denied previous unsubstantiated reports and charges advanced by numerous ad hoc missions and non-governmental organizations. Consequently, the termination of the mission's work in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia did not come about as an attempt to hide facts, but on the basis of the legitimate request of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to maintain cooperation with the CSCE on the footing of equality, which was rejected by the CSCE. In the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, there are no instances of racial discrimination against Hungarians or any other minority, which is reflected in the CSCE report. The situation in the so-called "Sandzak" is completely calm and without any nationally motivated incidents. The Muslims in this area are fully incorporated in all spheres of life and the majority of them do not support the militant policies of the SDA party (Party of Democratic Action) and its leader Sulejman Ugljanin, who is a fugitive from law because his scheme on armed rebellion in the region has been discovered and arms and ammunition for the violent overthrow of the legal authority have been impounded. Speaking of "militant nationalism" in the so-called "Sandzak", it should be emphasized that a large number of the most militant Muslims actively engaged in the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina were recruited precisely from this region.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate our expectation that in the process of ethnic division of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the representatives of the will of the three constituent peoples will, within their entities, respect the principles of pluralism, democracy and multi-ethnic societies. The representatives of the Serbian people in Bosnia and Herzegovina have, on a number of occasions, confirmed their readiness to do so, and recently demonstrated such readiness convincingly by reaching an agreement on lasting peace with the representatives of the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia of the Republic of Bosnia - that portion of the Muslim people who, unlike the extreme advocates of the continuation of the war, aspire to peace and the restoration of severed ties between the peoples.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 107.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.